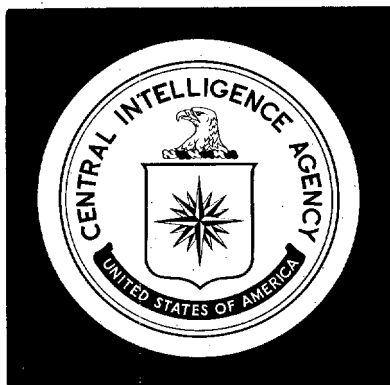


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GREECE-TURKEY-CYPRUS: Makarios rejects Greek ultimatum but hints at possible compromise.

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GREECE-TURKEY-CYPRUS: PRESIDENT MAKARIOS FLATLY REJECTED THE GREEK ULTIMATUM, BUT HAS HINTED THAT COMPROMISE IS STILL POSSIBLE IF GENERAL GRIVAS IS REMOVED.

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THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD THE US EMBASSY THAT PERIODIC INSPECTION OF THE RECENTLY ACQUIRED CZECH ARMS BY THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM PROVIDED GRIVAS LEFT THE ISLAND AND THE ILLEGAL GROUPS SUPPORTING HIM ARE DISBANDED. THE CYPRIOT OFFICIAL ADDED THAT MAKARIOS HAD BEEN CONSIDERING CABINET CHANGES FOR A LONG TIME AND WOULD PROBABLY PROCEED WITH THEM IF HE COULD DO SO WITHOUT APPEARING TO ACT UNDER PRESSURE FROM ATHENS. MAKARIOS HAS NOT COMMENTED ON THE ORAL PART OF THE GREEK ULTIMATUM, DELIVERED BY GREEK AMBASSADOR PANAYOTAKOS, DEMANDING THAT MAKARIOS RESIGN AS PRESIDENT AND "ABSENT HIMSELF FROM THE ISLAND." IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT THE ARCHBISHOP WILL REJECT THIS DEMAND AND THEN TRY TO RALLY GREEK CYPRIOT OPINION THROUGH SOME KIND OF PUBLIC STATEMENT.

IT NOW APPEARS THAT GREECE MAY HAVE HAD PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE CZECH ARMS DELIVERY. MAKARIOS BELIEVES THAT ATHENS IS EXPLOITING THE ISSUE AS AN EXCUSE TO MOVE AGAINST HIM PERSONALLY.

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THE CYPRIOT OFFICIAL ALSO DESCRIBED TO THE US EMBASSY THREE OCCASIONS DURING WHICH THE ARMS MATTER HAD BEEN MENTIONED TO GREEK OFFICIALS.

THE US EMBASSY IN NICOSIA REPORTED YESTERDAY THAT ATHENS APPEARED TO BE PLANNING TO USE NATIONAL GUARD UNITS LOYAL TO GREECE TO TAKE OVER KEY INSTALLATIONS IN NICOSIA. NO UNUSUAL MILITARY MOVES ON THE ISLAND HAVE BEEN REPORTED, HOWEVER, NOR DOES THERE APPEAR TO BE ANY MILITARY ALERT IN ATHENS. TURKEY REMAINS ALOOF, APPARENTLY STILL DETERMINED THAT THE CURRENT PROBLEMS REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED BETWEEN ATHENS AND NICOSIA.

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